FEBRUARY 2023
FOUNDED BY REVS. JIM AND ROSEMARIE GAINES AND FLORENCE MERINGOLA 1965-2023

Helping Hand Rescue Mission

www.hhrm.org - Facebook: Helping Hand Rescue Mission-Instagram@helpinghandli - 631-351-6996
225 Broadway, Huntington Station NY 11746

Our Donation Hours
Monday - 10AM-2PM
Tues-Fri 10AM-11AM
and
1PM-4PM
Saturday 10AM-1PM

Special Open Community Closet Distribution
Saturday, February 4th 10am-2pm
Regular Food Pantry & Community Closet
Tuesday-Friday 11-1pm
Happy Day Kids' Valentine's Party Feb 11 11am.
Monthly Baby Blessings Outreach
February 21 at Huntington Assembly 10am-12pm
Save The Date-Spring Into Easter CelebrationApril 1st

The Greatest Gift is LOVE.

Last week a woman came who was in need of a winter coat. Having given out over 5000 coats since October, we were currently out of many sizes.

I knew that we didn't have her size and I was headed into the room where we keep the coats when one of our incredible volunteers came walking with two coats on hangers. I didn't remember seeing them on the racks before, then I realized that the volunteer wasn't wearing her coat anymore. She had taken her own coat off and put it on the hanger when she realized we didn't have the size and that hers would fit the woman. I told her that she didn't have to do that and she said," I want to. I have other coats. This woman needs a coat." I watched as she smiled and helped the woman put the coat on and how it fit her perfectly and brought the woman warmth to enjoy as she wrapped it around herself. (and it was a very nice coat).

Not another word was said, just smiles were exchanged. As I walked into the building the scripture came to mind from Luke 3:11, "Whoever has two coats, let him give to him who has not, and whoever has food should do likewise."

The heart of our mission is to love, to serve and to give to those in need. Seeing people who live out their faith is a beautiful thing.
We've distributed 5000= coats to families since October 2022. Thank you to all who've given.

Food need is always our greatest material need.

Thank you to The Townwide Fund of Huntington for your generous donation of $10,000 to our pantry.

Meeting needs through the chilly winter months...

We're so thankful that we're able to continue to **purchase milk** and **additional non-perishables** for the people who come to our **food pantry**. We have been blessed by many donations of over 5000 **winter coats and beautiful winter clothes**. We have had them out for the people to choose from every distribution, and we're so thankful. As families press on through these hard times, affording food and basic essentials continues to be a struggle. **Our SOUPER BOWL drive (yes, it's cute) is collecting canned soup for families in need.** We offer our **food pantry four days a week** and **serve 900+ families a month**. **We are also providing meals to those on the streets on Tuesday and Thursday**. We are **purchasing food weekly** for this much needed and appreciated ministry to those who are hungry.

My Favorite Valentines

Of all the love stories I've ever heard, the story of my parents' meeting, courtship, marriage and pioneering of HHRM is one i never tire of. If I was writing a book, I'd probably call it Helping Hand Rescue Mission: A Journey of Faith & Love. It definitely was in so many ways.

I often think of the bravery it must have taken to start a Mission where there had never been one before with 25 cents capital. I admire the incredible foresight that they had as they trusted God, knowing that the need for a Mission in our community would be an ongoing and prevalent need.

Many of you played a part in that story and others have become a part of the story since that time. Thank you!

They loved God and each other wholeheartedly. They worked two lifetimes to establish the work and to set a firm foundation for whomever would be the next to lead the work. I'm so thankful that God picked them to be my parents and I'm so grateful that we can continue this work here in beautiful Huntington Station! Thanks be to God. Love is amazing!

You can read the whole story on our website www.hhrm.org.

Monthly Mission Partners

We are grateful to all who are making **regular monthly donations and to those who made year end gifts to HHRM.** This year, your support has been more critical than ever **as we work to manage the growth that we're experiencing**. We can't convey how much your **stable support** has been a pillar of provision for our Mission during the **complex and irregular times** we are journeying through. We are facing a **difficult season** as a nation and **community** and knowing your **support is regular** helps us to plan and keep our doors open.

We greatly appreciate your support. ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. Place your donation made out to Helping Hand Rescue Mission in the envelope enclosed or go to our website www.hhrm.org to donate or **set up a recurring gift.**

Thank you!

DEAR FAMILY, FRIENDS & MMP'S:)

Happy February!
We are so grateful for the positive impact that you helped HHRM to have in our community in 2022 and we are so excited for a new year and many new opportunities to meet the increased needs of local families together.

We're grateful to be here for families like the Gomez that often have a hard time making ends meet and need to come twice a month for food.
We're grateful to be here for Tom who has had 3 brain surgeries in the past 10 months and comes by for prayer and food for his family. He's doing so much better and says,"I don't think we would've made it through this time without you all. Thank you for everything."

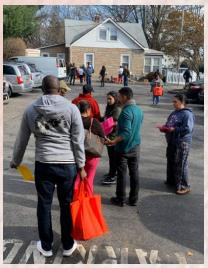
We prayed with a young woman "Debra" who needed a job and she got a job at a local drug store. She needed shoes and clothes for work and our dedicated volunteer Ingrid helped her to find several work outfits and shoes from our Community Closet. She was so excited to be starting a real job and left with tears in her eyes because she couldn't have afforded the work clothes on her own.

Our Community Kitchen & Dining Room Fund is HALFWAY TO $800,000! You've helped us to **raise $401,000 so far!** We're doing all that we can to continue to raise the needed funds to start building so that we can **feed our community nutritious meals** in a safe, health department certified, commercial building that feels like home. **If you have not yet given to this project, would you consider donating to help us reach our goal soon?** Wouldn't it be great to be able to build it this **SPRING or SUMMER**? The plans are in process and the Public Health Plan Application has been made. We can't tell you how excited we are to begin this project when it is fully funded. We don't want to have a mortgage for this project. We're trusting God to bring it all together.

I **wish I had more space in this letter to share more stories of provision** and blessing. I am humbled and honored to have been chosen as an **honoree by Huntington Foundation for Excellence in Education and Community Hero of The Game by The Long Island Nets**. **The Nets** are coming tonmorrow to help out at the Mission and the **Reach for the Stars Gala will be March 30th for HFFEE. Tickets are available on the HFFEE website.** You have all made me feel so special and appreciated. I am grateful.

We want to thank you for supporting the work of Helping Hand Rescue Mission. You have many choices of places to donate and we're grateful to those who support our work that we believe is very close to God's heart. You're in our prayers of thanks each day!

Serving Together,



LOVE, SERVE, GIVE.

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Thank You For Caring!
We believe that commitment to our faith and our community really matters. We're so grateful you're supporting our mission, whether it's by praying, volunteering, donating, supporting our events, or even just reading our newsletter!

Junior Welfare League of Huntington
January Food Drive

Helping Hand Rescue Mission
P.O. Box 325
225 Broadway
Huntington Station, NY 11746

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage

Paid

Hunt. Sta. N.Y.
Permit No. 82

"LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE WITH LOVE."

MISSION IMPACT 2022

FOOD & CLOTHING- 8997 FAMILIES WERE SERVED AT OUR WEEKLY PANTRY/COMMUNITY CLOSET

THANKSGIVING-1294 FAMILIES SERVED $22,000 IN SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS WERE DISPERSED.

CHRISTMAS-2000 CHILDREN RECEIVED TOYS THIS YEAR-SO MUCH JOY!

900+ CHOSE TO BEGIN A NEW LIFE WITH CHRIST THIS YEAR. PRAISE GOD!

Our outreaches happen 4 days a week. We are so grateful to be here to provide food, clothing, household goods, events and God's love here each day!
We are open 6 days a week to serve our community well.

800+ VOLUNTEERS WORKED OVER 25,000 HOURS SERVING OUR COMMUNITY! WOW!

$250,000 WAS RAISED AND SPENT ON FOOD AND DAIRY PRODUCTS

$50,000 WAS SHARED IN BENEVOLENT GIFTS TO FAMILIES IN NEED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!